

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

What is claimed is:

1. (Previously presented): A method for synchronizing transactions comprising:  
specifying a particular level of lag, said particular level of lag being a specified synchronicity setting;  
executing a series of commands at a first computing entity;  
controlling a level of lag between computing entities by relaying the series of commands to a second computing entity until said synchronicity setting is reached; and  
postponing relaying additional commands after said synchronicity setting is reached, wherein the second computing entity lags behind the first computing entity by an amount of lag that is no greater than said specified synchronicity setting.
2. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the first computing entity is a computer peripheral.
3. (Original): The method of claim 2, wherein the computer peripheral is a storage system.
4. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the first computing entity is a computer.
5. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the first computing entity is a computer program.
6. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as numbers of commands executed.
7. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as amounts of time.

8. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as amounts of data.
9. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as numbers of devices with outstanding commands to execute.
10. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the second computing entity is a computer peripheral.
11. (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein the computer peripheral is a storage system.
12. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the second computing entity is a computer.
13. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the second computing entity is a computer program.
14. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the series of commands is for a peer-to-peer remote copy operation.
15. (Previously presented): A computer program product in a computer-readable medium comprising functional descriptive data that, when executed by a computer, enables the computer to perform acts including:
  - specifying a particular level of lag, said particular level of lag being a specified synchronicity setting;
  - executing a series of commands at a first computing entity;
  - controlling a level of lag between computing entities by relaying the series of commands to a second computing entity until said synchronicity setting is reached; and

postponing relaying additional commands after said synchronicity setting is reached, wherein the second computing entity lags behind the first computing entity by an amount of lag that is no greater than said specified synchronicity setting.

16. (Original): The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the first computing entity is a computer peripheral.

17. (Original): The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the computer peripheral is a storage system.

18. (Original): The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the first computing entity is the computer.

19. (Original): The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the first computing entity is a computer program.

20. (Original): The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as numbers of commands executed.

21. (Original): The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as amounts of time.

22. (Original): The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as amounts of data.

23. (Original): The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as numbers of devices with outstanding commands to execute.

24. (Original): The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the second computing entity is a computer peripheral.

25. (Original): The computer program product of claim 24, wherein the computer peripheral is a storage system.
26. (Original): The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the second computing entity is a computer.
27. (Original): The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the second computing entity is a computer program.
28. (Original): The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the series of commands is for a peer-to-peer remote copy operation.
29. (Previously presented): A computer program product in a computer-readable medium comprising functional descriptive data that, when executed by a computer, enables the computer to perform acts including:
- specifying a particular level of lag, said particular level of lag being a specified synchronicity setting;
  - copying extents of data from a host to a first storage system pursuant to instructions from the host;
  - controlling a level of lag between storage systems by relaying the instructions to a second storage system until said synchronicity setting is reached; and
  - postponing relaying additional commands after said synchronicity setting is reached,
- wherein, the second storage system lags behind the first storage system in copying the extents of data by an amount of lag that is no greater than said specified synchronicity setting.
30. (Original): The computer program product of claim 29, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as numbers of instructions executed.
31. (Original): The computer program product of claim 29, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as amounts of time.

32. (Original): The computer program product of claim 29, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as amounts of data.
33. (Previously presented): A data processing system comprising:  
a processing unit including at least one processor;  
memory; and  
a set of instructions within the memory,  
wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to perform acts including:  
specifying a particular level of lag, said particular level of lag being a specified synchronicity setting;  
executing a series of commands;  
controlling a level of lag between computing entities by relaying the series of commands to a second computing entity until said synchronicity setting is reached; and  
postponing relaying additional commands after said synchronicity setting is reached,  
wherein the second computing entity lags behind the data processing system by an amount of lag that is no greater than said specified synchronicity setting.
34. (Original): The data processing system of claim 33, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as numbers of commands executed.
35. (Original): The data processing system of claim 33, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as amounts of time.
36. (Original): The data processing system of claim 33, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as amounts of data.
37. (Original): The data processing system of claim 33, wherein the amount of lag and the specified synchronicity setting are measured as numbers of devices with outstanding commands to execute.

38. (Original): The data processing system of claim 33, wherein the second computing entity is a computer peripheral.

39. (Original): The data processing system of claim 38, wherein the computer peripheral is a storage system.

40. (Original): The data processing system of claim 33, wherein the second computing entity is a computer.

41. (Original): The data processing system of claim 33, wherein the second computing entity is a computer program.

42. (Original): The data processing system of claim 33, wherein the series of commands is for a peer-to-peer remote copy operation.